

Health News Release

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Seattle massage therapist license suspended for sexual misconduct

OLYMPIA — The Department of Health has suspended massage practitioner Eric Enrique Lara's (MA.60230408) license for five years due to sexual misconduct.

The five-year suspension is the agency's final determination on proceedings that began with a complaint that Lara inserted his finger into a female patient's genitals during massage therapy.

In January, 2013 the agency immediately suspended Lara's license pending further legal action.

If Lara wants to have his license reinstated after the five years is up, he must undergo and complete a psycho-sexual evaluation by a psychiatrist or mental health professional licensed in Washington and approved by the secretary of health within 90 days of the reinstatement request. Before reinstatement is considered, Lara must also demonstrate that he meets all regulatory requirements for licensure.

Legal documents are available by clicking "Look up a health care provider" on the <u>Department</u> of <u>Health website</u> or by calling 360-236-4700.

The Department of Health protects and promotes public health, safety, and welfare in Washington by regulating the competency and quality of health care providers. The agency establishes, monitors, and enforces qualifications for licensing, consistent standards of practice, continuing competency mechanisms, and discipline. Rules, policies, and procedures promote the delivery of quality health care to people in Washington.

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